

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
28/29B

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1081



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village) East Lexington

Address 141 Lowell Street

Historic Name ~~Miss Mary A. Morrill House~~

Cedarcrest farmhouse

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction *1889-1898* c.1890 (prior to 1906)

Source maps, directories, visual inspection

Style/Form Queen Anne

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation rubble

Wall/Trim wood shingles

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

garage

Major Alterations (with dates) c.1980 - rehab. including
new front porch posts

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 34,340 SF

Setting mixed residential on busy main road



Recorded by Lisa Mausolf & *Nancy Seasholes*

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) June 2000; rev. *Sept. 2001*

BUILDING FORM (141 Lowell Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.

A simple example of the Queen Anne-style, 141 Lowell Street is a 2 1/2-story gablefront dwelling sheathed in wood shingles above a rubble foundation. The front gable pent is sheathed in wood shingles in a variation on the staggered butt shingle pattern with wavy shingles located above the attic window. The south half of the facade consists of a two-story, three-sided bay window. The entire gablefront is fronted by a single-story porch supported by replacement turned posts spanned by plain spindles above a concrete and brick deck. The entrance is recessed slightly and retains a glass-and-panel door with an adjacent elevated stairhall window. A curved bracket supports the overhang of the second floor. Above, on the second story, the front corner is supported by a turned post with a curved bracket with another bracket located adjacent to the bay window. A decorative pendant is located on the south end of the second story.

A single-story, three-sided bay window projects from the south side of the main house block. On the north side there is a two-story, hip-roofed projection a single bay wide and two bays deep. Fenestration consists primarily of 2/2 sash in molded surrounds, with some additional 1/1 replacement windows. Extending behind the main house is a single-story wing with a brick veneer which appears to have been converted from a shed.

The house is setback from the road on a low knoll. A stockade fence encloses the yard. To the northeast of the house is a two-car gablefront garage with two individual overhead doors. The building is clapboarded and capped by an asphalt roof with a 2/2 window on the north side.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

The early history of this house is not known at this time although it is shown on the 1906 Atlas as being owned by Miss Mary A. Morrill. Directories indicate that Miss Morrill was living on Lowell Street, near Maple Street, as early as 1894 and until about 1908. The lack of a complete numbering system for houses on Lowell Street until the 1930s makes it difficult to determine from directories other owners in the early 20th century. By 1934 the house was owned by William Frith and directories indicate that the house was then known as "Cedarhurst". In 1942 the acreage of the property totalled 105,295 square feet, about triple the current acreage. The property was sold by William Frith's estate in 1975. The building, which had become quite rundown, was rehabilitated about 1980.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lexington Assessors Records.
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Valuation Lists, various dates.
1906 Atlas.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*